

CLAIMS

Claims 1-10 (Cancelled)

11. (New) A composition for delivering an active substance to a nasal membrane, the composition comprising:
a minor effective amount of an active substance; and
a carrier comprising a fluid and a thickening agent.
12. (New) The composition of claim 11, wherein the composition comprises about 0.0000001 wt % to about 5.0 wt % homeopathic active substance.
13. (New) The composition of claim 11, wherein the composition comprises about 75 wt % to about 99.999 wt % carrier.
14. (New) The composition of claim 11, wherein the carrier comprises purified water, glycerin, and the thickening agent
15. (New) The composition of claim 11, wherein the thickening agent is selected from the group consisting of carbohydrate, hydroxycellulose carrageenan, sugar, guar gum, and methylcellulose.
16. (New) The composition of claim 15, wherein the thickening agent comprises hydroxyethyl cellulose.
17. (New) The composition of claim 11, wherein the active substance comprises zinc.
18. (New) The composition of claim 11, wherein the active substance comprises about 0.185 to about 2.8 wt % zinc gluconate.

19. (New) The composition of claim 11, further comprising a salt.
20. (New) The composition of claim 11, comprising about 75 to about 99.999 wt % water.
21. (New) The composition of claim 11, wherein the composition has a viscosity between about 2,500 cp and about 40,000 cp.
22. (New) A method of treating a cold comprising administering the composition of claim 11 to a nasal membrane.
23. (New) A composition for delivering an active substance to a nasal membrane, the composition comprising:
 - an effective amount of an active substance; and
 - carrier comprising a thickener, wherein
 - the composition has a viscosity in the range of about 2,500 to about 40,000 cp.
24. (New) The composition of claim 23, wherein the thickener is selected from the group consisting of glycerin, carrageenan, sugar, guar gum, methylcellulose, hydroxyethyl cellulose, and carbonydrate.
25. (New) The composition of claim 23, further comprising a permeation enhancer.
26. (New) The composition of claim 23, wherein the composition comprises about 0.000001 to about 5.0 wt % thickening agent.
27. (New) The composition of claim 23, wherein the active substance comprises zinc gluconate and the carrier comprises glycerin.
28. (New) A method of applying a composition to a nasal membrane comprising the step of supplying the composition of claim 23.

29. (New) A composition for application to a nasal membrane, the composition comprising:

about 75% to about 99.999 wt% of a carrier;

0 to about 5 wt % permeation enhancer;

0 to about 5 wt % emulsifier;

0 to about 5 wt % antioxidant;

about 0.000001 to about 5 wt % thickener; and

about 0.0000001 to about 10 wt % active substance

wherein the viscosity of the composition is about 2,500 to about 40,000 cp.

30. (New) The composition of claim 29, wherein the active substance is a homeopathic compound.

31. (New) The composition of claim 29, wherein the active substance comprises zinc.

32. (New) The composition of claim 31, wherein the active substance comprises a homeopathic amount of zinc.

33. (New) The composition of claim 29, wherein the thickener is selected from the group consisting of glycerin, carrageenan, sugar, guar gum, methylcellulose, hydroxyethyl cellulose, and carbonylate.

34. (New) The composition of claim 29, wherein the carrier comprises glycerin.

35. (New) The composition of claim 29, wherein the active substance is a decongestant.

36. (New) A method of administering an effective amount of an active substance, the method comprising the steps of:

providing a composition comprising the active substance, the composition having a viscosity between about 2,500 cp and 40,000 cp; and
applying the composition to a portion of a nasal membrane.

37. (New) The method of claim 36, wherein the step of providing comprises providing a composition comprising about 0.000001 to about 10 wt% zinc.

38. (New) The method of claim 36, wherein the step of providing comprises providing a composition comprising about 0.185 to about 2.8 wt% zinc gluconate.

39. (New) The method of claim 36, wherein the step of providing comprises providing a composition comprising about 0.1 to about 3 wt% thickener.

40. (New) A composition for reducing the severity and duration of a cold, the composition comprising:

about 0.000001 to about 5 wt% thickener;

about .05 to about 5 wt% glycerin;

about 0.0000001 to about 10 wt% active substance;

about 0.000001 to about 5 wt% salt, wherein the viscosity of the composition is about 2,500 to about 40,000 cp.

41. (New) A system for applying a composition to a nasal membrane comprising an applicator and the composition according to claim 11.

42. (New) A sprayable composition comprising:

an effective amount of an active substance; and

a carrier comprising a thickening agent, wherein said composition has a viscosity greater than about 2,500 cp and can be applied by spraying the composition onto a desired location.